

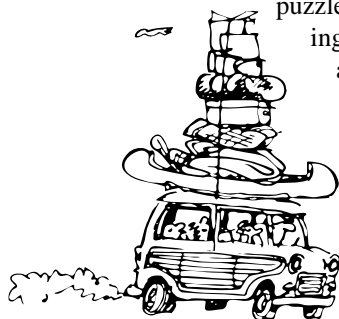
Inside

- HMGP changes come from FEMA - p. 2
- Premiere Hazmat training - p. 3
- Firefighter profession recognized - p. 4

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

Jamboree wraps up fifth event at Fort A.P. Hill

-About 200,000 visitors
 -16,000 tents
 -7,500 propane stoves
 -5,000 folding chairs
 -450 pay phones
 -50,000 fishing hooks
 -500 bicycles
 -4,500 cots
 -19 hospital tents
 -3.5 tons of hot dogs
 -13,500 boxes of cereal
 -8.5 tons of hamburgers
 -857 troops and scouts
 from 420 countries
(statistics provided by the Boy Scouts)



George and the City of Fredericksburg were participants in the event.

Nellis described the VDES piece of the puzzle. "We were the lead coordinating agency for the other state agencies in relation to planning and operations. Our major missions were to provide communications coverage for the EMS teams and assist with evacuation and sheltering planning." Part of the preparations included warehousing 40,000 box lunches in Fredericksburg in the event shelters needed to be opened and food distributed.

One of the planning issues involved improving the pass system that allows access to the Jamboree site. To avoid some of the problems that occurred during the last event, visitors and staff were issued color-coded metal license plates designed so they would be difficult to duplicate. Boy Scout security, assisted by the Military Police, helped staff traffic checkpoints around the perimeter of the Jamboree site.

"This year, they really cracked down on enforcement just to control the sheer volume of traffic on the roads," said Nellis. "The kids take over the roads and the concern is for their safety."

VDES also provided basic hazmat awareness training to the Military Police. "Because of the Oklahoma City bombing, there were different twists put on planning that had not been considered before," said Nellis. "The possible threat of a terrorist incident added extra priorities and primary emphasis was placed on chem/bio response training."

All of the affected jurisdictions worked through the regional Rappahannock EMS

Council to provide EMS support for the event. Caroline County Director of Fire and Rescue and Emergency Services Coordinator Roger Raines, said, "The biggest impact this event had on us was dealing with the increased number of people in the county." This meant stepping up EMS support to deal with the possibilities of higher than normal traffic accidents and health-related incidents — such as people suffering from heart attacks or heat strokes — during the Jamboree.

Raines met with his EOC staff, including the county administrator and school superintendent, to make sure resources were in place to get the job done. "During the Jamboree, we had one EMS unit staffed per day at all the stations and had two during the Arena shows," said Raines. "What was out-of-the-ordinary this time was the additional focus on planning for potential terrorist activities."

To test their sheltering and evacuation plans, the county conducted a tabletop exercise before the Jamboree began. Raines pointed out, "From the local level, we would like to do more actual field training with VDES and the regional EMS council prior to the next Jamboree. We need to be able to identify which groups will be interacting and train them together so they can get to know each other before the event."

As emergency services takes on an increasingly important role in state and local government, Nellis explained, "Special events planning requires significant resources and problem solving skills. Emergency management is the facilitation of those resources, whether for special events or for disasters. This experience demonstrates that you don't need a disaster to 'use' emergency management."

The National Scout Jamboree, held every four years at Fort A.P. Hill, is more than a scouting adventure. Preparing for the event presents planning challenges for the numerous federal, state and local agencies involved in supporting this mini-city during its three-week existence.

"The Boy Scout Jamboree is the largest special events planning situation that Virginia faces," said VDES Regional Coordinator Curt Nellis. "The area literally becomes a city with a complete infrastructure, health and medical issues and the threat of crime. This year's event was probably one of the best planned that we've ever participated in."

The list of players was not short. On the state side were VDES, the State Police, VDOT, the Office of EMS, the Virginia National Guard and the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries. The federal government brought in the Department of Defense, units from all of the military services, the FBI and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, as well as the Secret Service for the President's visit this year. The counties of Caroline, Spotsylvania, Hanover, Stafford and King

FEMA streamlines HMGP process

In a move that impacts states and localities across the country, FEMA has changed its policy for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. For all Presidential Disaster Declarations after July 7, 1997, the program's funds will be available to all localities within an affected state.

In past disasters, only localities that had been designated for Individual or Public Assistance were eligible for program funds. FEMA will now automatically

designate all counties and cities within a state as eligible for the grant program.

"The change is part of FEMA's overall effort to streamline the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program and provide greater flexibility to states and communities," said VDES Hazard Mitigation Branch Chief Mary Camp. "FEMA recognizes that program funds are intended to reduce the risk of future damage or hardship. This change allows funds to be used in areas that have the greatest need of mitigation."

Program funds are not limited to specific kinds of disasters, but can be used to mitigate for fire, flooding, wind and other types of natural disasters. Camp added, "The existing procedures — in which the state requests areas for designation — will no longer apply to the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. For Individual and Public Assistance designation, however, the process remains the same."

For more information, call Mary Camp at 804/674-2443.

VDES Training and Tech Haz gain new staff

Who's new at VDES? The agency filled two vacant positions this past July. Gordon Barwell, a retired Colonel with the Australian Army, is the new Training and Development Coordinator in the Emergency Management Training Branch of the Operations Division.

While in the Australian Army, Barwell was in an armored infantry brigade and served in Vietnam from 1970-71 in the Phuoc Tuy province south of the former city of Saigon.

As an Army training officer, he developed and implemented training on the individual level and for large-scale training exercises involving thousands of soldiers.

Barwell retired in 1994, followed his

wife's Army Reserve career to this country and found a home at VDES.

Some of Barwell's current responsibilities include assisting localities with meeting federal and state training requirements and managing the LEMOC program.

"I feel that cooperation is the key to ensuring that everyone gets involved in the training development process," said Barwell. "We want our training to meet the requirements and resources of the localities."

The Tech Haz division has brought Steven De Lisi on board as Hazmat Officer for central and south-central Virginia. De Lisi launched his involvement with emergency services as a

volunteer firefighter in New York's Nassau County.

In 1982, De Lisi joined Virginia's Newport News Fire Department and served eight years on their hazmat response team. He left in 1992 to take a position with the Department of Fire Programs as a regional coordinator where he has worked for the past five years.

"My goal is to foster teamwork — to work with the localities because we are here to serve them," said De Lisi. "I also want to reinforce a true appreciation for safety and for the potential hazards of a responder's job. We deliver services to the public, but we need to deliver our services safely."

Leadership for the front lines

Dr. Warren Bennis is Distinguished Professor of Business Administration and founding chairman of The Leadership Institute at the University of Southern California. He describes "Great Groups" and points out traits of "Great Group" leaders in his book, *Organizing Genius: The Secrets of Creative Collaboration*. He says "Great Group" leaders:

- ❑ *Provide direction and meaning.* They remind people of what's important and why their work makes a difference.
 - ❑ *Generate and sustain trust.* The group's trust in itself — and its leadership — allows members to accept dissent and ride through the turbulence of the group process.
 - ❑ *Display a bias toward action, risk taking and curiosity.* A sense of urgency — and a willingness to risk failure to achieve results — is at the heart of every Great Group.
 - ❑ *Are purveyors of hope.* Effective team leaders find both tangible and symbolic ways to demonstrate that the group can overcome the odds.
- (Reprinted with permission: Copyright 1997 by Warren Bennis, Inc.)

Firefighters awarded fellowships

This past summer, six senior fire officials were awarded fellowships to attend Harvard University's annual *Senior Executives in State and Local Government Program*. Two fire chiefs from Virginia, Chief Mark Light, from Henrico County, and Chief Mary Beth Michos, from Prince William County, were among the six selected to attend this prestigious program.

During the seminar, the group focused on defining problems, analyzing policy options and determining the roles of public officials in today's complex work environment.

"We gained a greater understanding of the differing perspectives that elected and appointed officials bring to the table," said Light. "We desire the same things but may have different ways to reach our goals."

"The seminar refocused our thinking and emphasized the importance of examining issues from a more analytical standpoint," observed Michos. "In part, we looked at what we did by analyzing the public value of our ideas."

HAZ MAT



Facility offers high-quality training

Premier training in hazmat is distinguished by concern for student and instructor safety, commitment to the safety of the local community and a sense of responsibility for the environ-

needs; to see both sides of relevant issues.”

What are the facility’s attractions for hazmat response teams? To illustrate, a damaged rail car brought to the facility for training purposes



ment. Add to that list the opportunity for hands-on exercises, creative teaching and facilities that offer a range of equipment and services. Finally, create a facility that is one of the best in the United States and you’ve got a perfect description of DuPont Corporation’s training facility on the Smith River near Martinsville.

In a productive partnership with government, DuPont has opened the doors of this facility to first responders since 1970. State police, hazmat teams, fire and EMS have received invaluable training at this site.

“Students have access to equipment here that they wouldn’t have in most other training facilities in the country,” said Pete Pearman, DuPont’s fire and emergency response training coordinator. “We offer all kinds of learning situations here; from media relations to teambuilding to sharing experiences with other students and instructors. The training allows responders and private industry the opportunity to understand each other’s

allows students to practice realistic damage assessment reporting. Some of the many site props include the Transcaer Car as well as 16 other different types of transportation vehicles, a range of equipment—including grounding and bonding equipment—a rappel tower, about 175 feet of underground tunnels for simulated mine shaft rescue training, a high-tech burn pit and top-notch multimedia classroom equipment.

“The site props can be modified to fit any training scenario to keep the lesson fresh,” said Pearman. “At this facility, we can simulate land, rail, highway and water transportation.”

Students are brought through the “crawl, walk, run” method of instruction and encouraged to debate and analyze relevant issues. “The type of training students receive from this partnership helps them develop new perspectives because it challenges them,” said VDES Hazmat Officer Bobby Clark. “It offers new ways to share (continued at top of page)

ideas and develop training opportunities. Responders can get to know who they’ll be working with in an incident involving industry.”

Pearman observed, “This kind of partnership is a two-way exchange. We learn as much from first responders as

they learn from us. When that happens, I’ve got a contact, a face. I know that person and will have more confidence when we need to work together.”

For more information about the facility, call Pete Pearman at 540/666-5353.

EENET works with Virginia

by Sue Downin, EENET Executive Producer

Thanks to a decade-long partnership with Virginia, FEMA’s Emergency Education NETwork (EENET) is growing today. How did this cooperative venture start? In 1988, EENET aired its first program titled “Introduction to Hazardous Materials.” This broadcast was a joint effort between EENET and VDES.

VDES provided the instructors and the material for this two-day video course which was based on the class that was already being taught throughout the state. After the broadcast, Virginia viewers who successfully completed the final exam were eligible to earn a certificate of completion for Virginia Hazmat Level I Training.

This video course was so successful that more than 5,000 Virginia participants were trained using the program. Some parts of the tapes are still used by other states and organizations for training.

Two years later, another joint-effort broadcast was aired which included 40 hours of basic hazardous materials training for first responders. The five-day broadcast was designed to meet OSHA training requirements for hazmat workers.

Most recently, Virginia emergency services shared with the EENET audience their expertise on terrorism issues. This collaboration resulted in a three-part series on terrorism, the first of which was titled “Managing Terrorism Events: the Oklahoma Experience.” It aired in August of last year and won the “Communicator Crystal Award of Excellence.” Copies of the broadcast were included in Virginia’s “Public Safety Response to Terrorism” Course.

Virginia, the FBI and FEMA worked together on the second in the series, “Terrorism Update,” which aired in December of last year. Look for the third, “Emergency Response to Terrorist Incidents,” which airs October 2. Most of the video clips used in the training scenarios are from an exercise recently conducted in Virginia Beach and at other locations in the state.

A new series, “National Alert,” began this year. It consists of material contributed by EENET viewers, with the Virginia Beach Fire Training Center producing a monthly segment.

Thanks to the Virginia emergency services professionals who have contributed their time and effort to EENET over the years, this state/federal partnership has not only benefited viewers in this country, but the thousands of EENET viewers worldwide.

TRAINING



Technological Hazards Division

Hazardous Materials Technician

October 13-24

Ashland

For information, call the
VDES Tech Haz Division at
804/674-2510.

EPCRA: Emergency Release Notification and Reporting Workshop

October 8

Lebanon

For information, call George
Roarty at 804/674-2708.

Virginia Hazardous Materials Conference

September 25-27

Virginia Beach

For information, call Steve
Grainer at 804/674-2458.

**In conjunction with the Hazmat
Conference, the following classes
are offered:**

Public Safety Response to Terrorism

September 22

Virginia Beach

Public Safety Response to Terrorism/Management Considerations

September 23-24

Virginia Beach

For information, call the
VDES Tech Haz Division
at 804/674-2510.

Advanced CAMEO Training Workshop

September 24

Virginia Beach

For information, call George
Roarty at 804/674-2708.

Search and Rescue

Incident Commander-Ground

September 5-7

Charlottesville

SAR Council

September 27

Richmond

For information, call Winnie
Pennington at 804/674-2422.

Conferences

NCCEM Annual Conference

September 13-16

Tempe, Arizona

For information,
call 703/538-1795.

EPA Region III Chemical Emergency Preparedness & Prevention Conference

December 2-5

Pittsburgh, Penn.

For information, call Al Brown
at 215/566-3302.

Firefighters recognized

1997 Virginia Firefighter Memorial

October 4

1:00-2:00 p.m.

Virginia State Capitol, Richmond

Virginia firefighters who died in the line of duty from 1995 to the present will be honored at this service.

1997 Virginia Firefighter Appreciation Day

October 5

Paramount's Kings Dominion

This all-day event recognizes the dedication and service of the state's firefighters.

For more information, call Steve Skinner at 804/371-0220.



National Alert Broadcast

September 17

2:00-3:30 p.m.

Emergency Response to Terrorist Incidents

October 2

1:00-5:00 p.m.

The third in the EENET Terrorism series, the program deals with the role of the emergency responder during a terrorist incident.

For more information, call 800/527-4893, 301/447-1068, e-mail:
sue.downin@fema.gov

Special Broadcast

"Medical Management of Biological Casualties"

September 16, 18, 19

12:30-4:30 p.m.

This live broadcast is targeted for military medical care providers, but relevant to all in the emergency services community. The goal is to educate health care professionals about the potential problem of biological warfare and terrorism.

Call Rick Stevens at 301/619-4880 for more information.



310 Turner Road
Richmond, VA 23225-6491

UPDATE is a monthly publication of the Virginia Department of Emergency Services. Contributions of articles or ideas are welcome and can be made by calling 804/674-2499. State Coordinator...Addison E. Slayton Information Director...Michael J. La Civita Executive Editor...Janet L. Clements Managing Editor...Jo A. Hoots

Access the VDES homepage at:
<http://www.state.va.us/~des/des.htm>

© COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA 1997